

JOHN GENNARI
Professor of English and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies
University of Vermont

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania, 1993. American Civilization.
M.A. University of Pennsylvania, 1986. American Civilization.
B.A. Harvard College, 1982. Social Studies.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Chair, Department of English, University of Vermont, 2020-2023
Professor of English and Critical Race and Ethnic Studies, University of Vermont, 2017-
Interim Director, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Program, University of Vermont, 2016.
Associate Professor of English and ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies, University of Vermont, 2007-2017
Visiting Research Scholar, American Studies Department, Yale University, 2008-09
Director, ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies Program, University of Vermont, 2004-2009
Interim Director, ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies Program, University of Vermont, 2003-04.
Assistant Professor of English and ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies, University of Vermont, 2001-2005
Assistant Professor of American Studies and History, Penn State-Harrisburg, 1999-2001.
Instructor, African American Studies Program, University of Virginia, 1998-99.
Instructor, Division of Technology, Culture, and Communication, University of Virginia, 1999.
Instructor, Sewall Residential Program in American Studies, University of Colorado-Boulder, 1994-1997.
Visiting Assistant Professor of History, Wabash College, 1993-94.

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

University of Vermont REACH Grant (\$20,000 for work on *The Jazz Barn*), 2023-24.
Carter G. Woodson Institute, University of Virginia, Visiting Scholar, 1997-98.
National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, 1996.
American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship, 1996-97 (declined).
W.E.B. Du Bois Institute, Harvard University, Visiting Scholar, 1996.
Smithsonian Institution Predoctoral Fellow, 1992-93.

AWARDS

University of Vermont, College of Arts and Sciences, Dean's Lecture Award, Spring 2008
ASCAP-Deems Taylor Prize for Excellence in Music Criticism, 2007
(for Blowin' Hot and Cool: Jazz and Its Critics).
John G. Cawelti Award for the Best Book in American Culture Studies, 2007
(for Blowin' Hot and Cool: Jazz and Its Critics).
Tim Shiner Ally Award ("for strong commitment to work within the UVM ALANA community in an effort to create social change"), 2007
UVM Women's Center Outstanding Ally Award ("for your significant contribution to feminist and anti-sexist activism on the campus"), 2007.
Nominated for Kroepsch-Maurice Excellence in Teaching Award (2010, 2013).

CURRENT PROJECTS

"BlackItalian," documentary film-in progress, collaboration with Christina Zanfagna

(Santa Clara University), Michael Whalen (Santa Clara University), and Camille Hawthorne (University of California/Santa Cruz), completed film targeted for 2027.
"The Kitchen Sessions," a collection of poems and vignettes targeted for publication in 2026.
"The Barbers and the Barn: Music Inn and the 1950s," writer and performer, Berkshire Salon Series, The Mount, Lenox, MA, scheduled for Sunday, August 16, 2006.

PUBLICATIONS

(*connotes peer-reviewed publication; # connotes publication prior to arriving at UVM)

BOOKS

- * The Jazz Barn: Music Inn, the Berkshires, and the Place of Jazz in American Life (Brandeis University Press, 2025).
- * Flavor and Soul: Italian America at its African American Edge (University of Chicago Press, 2017).
- * Blowin' Hot and Cool: Jazz and Its Critics (University of Chicago Press, 2006; second edition, 2017).

ARTICLES, CHAPTERS, AND ESSAYS

- **"The Original Dixieland Jazz Band, the Black/Italian Racial Nexus, and Transatlantic Jazz Historiography," in eds. Vincent Bocchimuzzo, Elena Daniela, Anthony Julian Tamburri, The Italian Immigrant Experience: Between Black and White (Studies in Italian Americana 17, 2024): 93-122.
- "Music," Italian American Studies Open Syllabus, CUNY, <https://cuny.manifoldapp.org/projects/italian-american-studies-open-syllabus>
- **"A Stranger in the Villaggio: Italian Studies, American Studies, Jazz, and the Transnational Turn," Forum Italicum: A Journal of Italian Studies 57/2 (August 2023): 324-336.
- **"A Job That Had to Be Done," exhibition catalog for Voices of Liberty: Allied Service Members of Italian Descent in WWII, Palazzo del Pegaso, Florence, Italy, April 2022.
- **"Groove, Voice, and Mystery: Reflections on Steely Dan Cool," Rock Music Studies 9/1 (2022; published online December 21, 2021): 1-24.
- "Jazz in the Late 1940s: American Culture at Its Most Alluring," The National World War II Museum, New Orleans (published online, September 15, 2021).
- "Nasty Woman: A Tribute to Louise De Salvo (1942-2018)," Italian American Review 10/1 (Winter 2020): 47-48.
- * "Jazz and the White Americans: A Contextualization and Appreciation," Forward to Chinese language version of Neil Leonard's Jazz and the White Americans (1963), Zhejiang University Press (2019).
- **"Touching at a Distance': A Meditation on Italian American Soundfulness," Italian American Review 9/1 (Winter 2019): 10-25.
- **"Listening to Italian America," (introduction to special issue), Italian American Review 9/1 (Winter 2019): 1-9.
- **"Wacky Post-Fluxus Revolutionary Mixed Media Shenanigans": Rethinking Jazz and Jazz Studies through Jason Moran's Multimedia Performance," in The Routledge Companion to Jazz Studies, eds. Nicholas Gebhardt, Nichole Rustin, and Tony Whyton (London and New York: Routledge, 2019): 117-128.
- **"Tuck this Accent Back into the Bronx Earth': Annie Lanzillotto's Language of Sopravivenza," Introduction to Annie Lanzillotto, Pitch Roll Yaw (Toronto: Guernica, 2018): xvii-xxvi.

- *“Groovin’: A Condensed History of Italian Americans in Popular Music and Jazz,” in The Routledge History of Italian Americans, ed. William J. Connell and Stanislao Pugliese (London and New York: Routledge, 2018): 415-432.
- “Solid Sound: Growing Up in an Italian American World,” Vermont Quarterly (Fall 2017): 16-17.
- “Keeping America Great,” *i-Italy* (www.i-Italy.org/magazine/focus/op-eds/article/keeping-America-great), February 2017.
- *“Jazz in America after 1945,” in The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History, ed. Jon Butler, Online. 2016. [Republished in the Oxford Encyclopedia of American Urban History, ed. Timothy Gilfoyle (New York: Oxford University Press, 2019): 1214-1229].
- *“The Sound and the Fury: The Acoustics of Afro-Italian Life in Kym Ragusa’s *The Skin Between Us*,” Voices in Italian Americana 26/2 (Fall 2015): 34-46.
- “Remapping the Boundaries of Jazz: The Case of Jason Moran,” in Wolfram Knauer, ed. Jazz Debates/Jazzdebatten, Darmstadt Studies in Jazz Research, vol. 13. (Darmstadt: Jazzinstitut Darmstadt, 2014): 93-108.
- *“The Knife and the Bread, the Brutal and the Sacred: Louise DeSalvo at the Family Table,” in Personal Effects: Essays on Memory, Culture, and Women in the Work of Louise DeSalvo, eds. Nancy Caronia and Edvige Giunta (New York: Fordham University Press. 2014): 233-50.
- * “Sideline Shtick: The Italian American Basketball Coach and Consumable Images of Racial and Ethnic Masculinity,” in Making Italian America: Consumer Culture and the Production of Ethnic Identities (New York: Fordham University Press, 2014): 207-224.
- *“The Other Side of the Curtain: U.S. Jazz Discourse, 1950s America, and the Cold War,” in Gertrude Pickhan and Rudiger Ritter, eds. Jazz Behind the Iron Curtain (Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2010): 25-34.
- * “Blaxploitation Bird,” in Thriving on a Riff, ed. Graham Lock and David Murray (New York: Oxford University Press, 2008): 163-183.
- “Red Sox Reflection,” Vermont Quarterly (Fall 2008): 18-19.
- *“Mammissimo: Dolly and Frankie Sinatra and the Italian American Mother/Son Thing,” in Frank Sinatra: History, Politics, and Italian American Culture, ed. Stanislao G. Pugliese (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004): 127-134.[revision of essay that appeared earlier in Italian Americana (Winter 2001): 6-10].
- * “Passing for Italian: Crooners and Gangsters in Crossover Culture,” in Frank Sinatra: History, Politics, and Italian American Culture, ed. Stanislao G.Pugliese (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2004): 127-34.
- “Nearer, My God, To Thee,” in Some of My Best Friends: Essays on Interracial Friendship, ed. Emily Bernard (New York: HarperCollins, 2004): 32-53.
- * “Hipsters, Bluebloods, Rebels, and Hooligans: The Cultural Politics of the Newport Jazz Festival, 1954-1960,” in Uptown Conversations: New Essays in Jazz Studies, eds. Robert O’Meally, Brent Edwards, and Farah Jasmine Griffin (Columbia University Press, 2004): 126-149.
- * “Giancarlo Giuseppe Alessandro Esposito: Life in the Borderlands,” in Are Italians White? How Race is Made in America, ed. Jennifer Guglielmo and Salvatore Salerno (New York and London: Routledge, 2003): 234-249.
- * “Baraka’s Bohemian Blues,” African American Review, 37 (Fall 2003): 95-101.[revised version translated and published as “I blues bohemian di Baraka,” in Amiri Baraka: Ritratto Dell’Artista in Nero, eds. Franco Mingati and Giorgio Rimondi (Baccilega Editore, 2007): 58-68.
- * # “Bridging the Two Americas. LIFE Looks at The 1960s,” in Looking at LIFE Magazine, ed. Erika Doss (Washington, D.C.: Smithsonian Institution Press, 2001): 261-277.
- * # “Miles Davis and the Jazz Critics,” in Miles Davis and American Culture, ed. Gerald Early (St. Louis: Missouri Historical Society Press, 2001): 66-77.

- # “On Black Goombahs and ‘Da Moulon Yan,’” Common Quest 4/2 (Winter 2000): 56.
- # “Pulp Addiction: Tracking the Bird Obsession in Ross Russell’s *The Sound*,” Brilliant Corners 2/1 (December 1997): 38-51.
- # “Slumming in High Places: Albert Murray’s Intercontinental Ballistics,” Brilliant Corners 1 (1996): 59-67.
- # * “‘A Weapon of Integration’: Frank Marshall Davis and the Politics of Jazz,” The Langston Hughes Review 14 (Fall 1995/Spring 1996): 15-32.
- # * “Jazz Criticism: Its Development and Ideologies,” Black American Literature Forum, 25 (Fall 1991): 449-523. [Excerpted in Riffs & Choruses: A New Jazz Anthology, ed. Andrew Clark (London and New York: Continuum, 2001): 62-67.
- # “Jazz and the Cultural Canon,” Reconstruction, 1/3 (1991). 25-32 [excerpted as “Jazz and Modernism,” The Chronicle of Higher Education, September 11, 1991: B2].

PUBLICATIONS: REVIEWS, BIBLIOGRAPHIC ESSAYS, AND ENCYCLOPEDIA ENTRIES

- Review of Don Armstrong, *The Life and Writings of Ralph J. Gleason: Dispatches from the Front*, Popular Music and Society, 48/4 (October 2025).
- Review of Merve Emre, *Paraliterary: The Making of Bad Readers in Postwar America* and M.J. Rymysz-Pawlowska, *History Comes Alive: Public History and Popular Culture in the 1970s*, American Literature, 12/2 (June 2020): 406-408.
- Review of Bill Dal Cerro and David Anthony Witter, *Bebop, Swing, and Bella Musica: Jazz and the Italian American Experience*, Voices in Italian Americana, 30/1, 2019: 5-6.
- Review of John Lowney, *Jazz Internationalism: Literary Afro-Modernism and the Cultural Politics of Black Music*, American Literary History Online Review (Oxford University Press), 2019.
- Review of Kirstie Dorr, *On Site, In Sound: Performance Geographies in America Latina*, The Americas: A Quarterly Review of Latin American History, 76/3, July 2019: 515-517.
- Review of Rolando Vitale, *The Real Rockys: A History of the Golden Age of Italian Americans in Boxing, 1900-1955*, Italica (2016).
- Review of Carrie Pitzulo, *Bachelors and Bunnies: The Sexual Politics of Playboy*, American Studies, 53/2 (2014): 213-14.
- “Miles Davis,” Encyclopedia of American Studies (Johns Hopkins University Press), 2013 (online).
- “Frank Sinatra,” Encyclopedia of American Studies (Johns Hopkins University Press), 2013 (online).
- “Finding the Groove: A Brief Guide to Archives on Italian Americans in Jazz,” Italian Americana, 31/1 (2013): 36-39.
- “Eccentric, Gifted, and Black: Thelonious Monk Revealed,” Du Bois Review 7:2 (2010): 6-14.
- Review of Carol Bonomo Albright and Joanna Clapps Herman, *Wild Dreams: The Best of Italian Americana*, Altreitalie, 38-39 (January-December 2009): 344-6.
- Review of Karen McNally, *When Frankie Went to Hollywood: Frank Sinatra and American Male Identity*, Men and Masculinities, 12/2 (October 2009): 261-3.
- “Jazz in African-American Culture,” Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History, 2nd Edition: The Black Experience in the Americas (Macmillan Reference USA, 2006).
- “Truth and Beauty in the Rust Belt,” review of Carlo Rotella, *Good With Their Hands: Boxers, Bluesmen, and Other Characters From The Rust Belt*, American Quarterly, 55 (June 2003): 285-293.
- Review of HR-57 Center for the Preservation of Jazz and Blues, The Public Historian 25 (Spring 2003): 110-113.

- Review of Paul Allen Anderson, *Deep River: Music and Memory in Harlem Renaissance Thought*, American Literature (September 2002): 649-652.
- Review of David Evanier, *Making the Wiseguys Weep: The Jimmy Roselli Story*. Italian Americana (Winter 2003): 114-15.
- # “Art” [with Betty Gubert], [a bibliographic essay on source materials for the study of African American art], The Harvard Guide to African-American History, ed. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001): 125-138.
- # Review of Lewis Erenberg, *Swingin’ the Dream: Big Band Jazz and the Rebirth of American Culture*, The Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science 570/2 (July 2000): 201-202.
- # Entries on Muhammad Ali, Wilt Chamberlain, and Jack Johnson in Encyclopedia Africana, ed. Kwame Anthony Appiah and Henry Louis Gates, Jr. (New York: Perseus Books, 1999): 73-5, 409-10, 1054-55.
- # Review of Jon Panish, *The Color of Jazz: Race and Representation in Post-war American Culture*, American Literature 71/1 (March 1999): 130-31.
- # Review of Burton Peretti, *Jazz in American Culture*, American Studies 39/1 (Spring 1998): 149-151.
- # “Recovering the ‘Noisy Lostness’: History in the Age of Jazz,” review of Burton Peretti, *The Creation of Jazz: Music, Race, and Culture in Urban America*, William Kenney, *Chicago Jazz: A Cultural History: 1904-1930*, and David Stowe, *Swing Changes: Big Band Jazz in New Deal America*, Journal of Urban History 24/2 (January 1998): 226-234.
- # “But Is It Jazz?,” review of John Hasse, *Beyond Category: The Life and Genius of Duke Ellington* and Ronald Radano, *New Musical Figurations: Anthony Braxton’s Cultural Critique*, Reviews in American History, 23 (March 1995): 91-97.
- # “The Ellington Library,” review of Mark Tucker, *The Early Ellington*, Reconstruction, 1/4 (1992) :108-113.
- # “The Achievement of Billie Holiday,” review of Robert O’Meally, *Lady Day: The Many Faces of Billie Holiday*, Reconstruction, 2/1 (1992): 78-80.

POEMS

- “Groove” and “Broilin’,” Brilliant Corners: A Journal of Jazz and Literature, 27/1 (2022).
- “The Bodies,” “Archive,” “Do-gooders,” and “Gig,” The Ocean State Review, 9/1 (2019).
- “Soaps,” “Deep Six,” and “Genderbend,” Voices in Italian Americana, 29/2 (2018).

KEYNOTE LECTURES

- “The Original Dixieland Jazz Band, the Black/Italian Racial Nexus, and Transatlantic Jazz Historiography,” *The Italian Immigrant Experience: Between Black and White*, Tulane University, New Orleans, September 2022.
- “Meditations on Italian American Soundfulness,” *Italian Sonorities and Acoustic Communities: Listening to the Soundscapes of Italianità*, John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, New York, April 2017.
- “Who Owns Jazz History?” *11th Nordic Jazz Conference*, Oslo, Norway, October 23, 2015.
- “Rethinking Jazz and Jazz Studies through Jason Moran’s Multimedia Performance,” *Jazz Beyond Borders Conference*, Amsterdam, Netherlands, September 2014.
- “Remapping the Boundaries of Jazz: The Case of Jason Moran,” *13th Darmstadt Jazzforum*, Darmstadt Jazzinstitut, Darmstadt, Germany, September 2013.
- “Fughettaboutit: Toward an Acoustics of Italian America,” *For a Dangerous Pedagogy: A Manifesto for Italian and Italian American Studies*, Hofstra University, April 2010.

“Why Italian American Studies and Hip-Hop Need Each Other,” *Eye-Talian Flava: The Italian American Experience in Hip Hop*,” John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, New York, October 2002.

INVITED LECTURES AND ROUNDTABLES

- “‘Because We Are So Much Alike’: The Black Italian Contact Zone,” (roundtable discussant), Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, California, May 2024.
- “The Jazz Salon: Photographer Clemens Kalischer at Music Inn,” Historic Columbia, Columbia, SC, March 2023
- “The Shape of Jazz Criticism to Come: Liner Notes for an Unsettled Future,” *Milan-IULM Symposium on Music Criticism*, December 2021 (virtual).
- “Black Italian Crossroads” (Roundtable with Rhiannon Giddens, Francesco Turrasi, John Turturro, Camilla Hawthorne, Christina Zanfagna), Santa Clara University, April 2021 (virtual).
- “Flavor and Soul: Italian America at its African American Edge,” Department of Italian, Columbia University, March 2021 (virtual).
- “Italian Americans in the World of Jazz,” co-presentation with Prof. Anna Celenza, Coccia Institute, Montclair State University and One Day University, April 2021 (virtual).
- Respondent to Kathleen LaPenta and Jacqueline Reich, “Place, Memory and the Picturesque in Bronx Oral Histories: The Bronx Italian American History Initiative and Community-Engaged Scholarship,” *Columbia University Seminar in Modern Italian Studies*, October 2020.
- “Touching at a Distance: A Meditation on Italian American Soundfulness,” 2019 Friedman Symposium, Baruch College/CUNY, May 2019
- “Everythingness: Ficre Ghabreyesus’s Afro-Italian Aesthetic,” Museum of the African Diaspora, San Francisco, CA, October 2018.
- “Living in Sound: Growing Up Italian American,” University of Vermont Retired Faculty and Administrators Association Annual Luncheon, June 2018
- “Everybody Eats: A Flavorful Riff on Black/Italian Music and Food,” Department of Nutrition and Food Studies, New York University, March 2018.
- “‘To Sound that Black, They Had to be Italian’: The Rascals and the Rock/Soul Racial Narrative,” American Studies Program, University of Virginia, March 2018.
- “The House We Live In: Sinatra in the Age of Trump,” Department of Italian Studies, San Diego State University, March 2018.
- “Flavor and Soul: Italian America at Its African American Edge,” De Bosis Colloquium in Italian Studies, Harvard University, March 2018.
- “Everybody Eats: A Flavorful Riff on Black/Italian Music and Food,” American Studies Program, Boston College, October 2017.
- “Flavor and Soul: Italian America at Its African American Edge,” School of Individualized Study, Rochester Institute of Technology, October 2017.
- “Everybody Eats: A Flavorful Riff on Black/Italian Music and Food,” Department of Italian Studies, University of California/Davis, October 2017.
- “Flavor and Soul: Italian America at Its African American Edge,” University of California/Berkeley, Berkeley, CA, October 2017.
- “Spike and His Goombahs,” Department of Arts and Cultural Studies, Berkeley City College, October 2017.
- “Everybody Eats: A Flavorful Riff on Black/Italian Music and Food,” Full Professor Lecture, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Vermont, September 2017.
- “Frank Sinatra and Italian American Culture,” *Sinatra: A Centenary Tribute*, Hofstra University, November 2015,
- “The Jazz Salon: Lenox, Music Inn, and the American 1950s,” Yale University, Photography

- and Memory Workshop, January 2010.
- “The Jazz Word: Reflections on Music and Writing,” Berklee College of Music, October 2009.
- “The First Time: Notes on Race and Adoption,” Yale University, Department of African American Studies, March 2009.
- “The Sounds and the Fury: The Acoustics of Afro-Italian Life in Kym Ragusa’s *The Skin Between Us: A Memoir of Race, Beauty, and Belonging*,” College of Arts and Sciences Dean’s Lecture, University of Vermont, April 2008; Yale University, American Studies Department, April 2009.
- “The Celluloid Professor,” *Blackboard Jungle: Navigating Race, Gender, and Sexuality in the New Classroom Culture*, University of Vermont, March 2008.
- “In a Sentimental Mood: Duke Ellington and Jazz’s Language of Love,” UVM Alumni New York Regional Board event at Jazz at Lincoln Center, February 2008.
- “Tenor Madness: Joe Lovano’s *Viva Caruso* and the Italian Jazz Diaspora,” Calandra Italian American Institute, New York, NY, May 2006.
- “Mainstream, Third Stream, Multiple Streams: Mapping the Cultural Currents of Post-1960 Jazz,” *The Black Artists Group of St. Louis*, St. Louis, February 2006.
- “Blaxploitation Bird: Charlie Parker, Ross Russell, and the Racialized Masculinity of Jazz Writing,” *Pursuance: Avant-Garde Jazz and Innovative Writing*, DePaul University, Chicago, May 2004.
- “Baraka’s Bohemian Blues,” *Blues People: Forty Years Later*, Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, NY, February 2004.
- “Jazz and African American Culture,” Middlebury College, February 2004.
- “Jazz Historiography and Political Economy,” Jazz Study Group, Columbia University, October 2003.
- “Writer’s Writers’ and Sensitive Cats: Notes on the Craft of Jazz Writing,” Terni Jazz Festival Symposium, Terni, Italy, June 2003.
- “Duke Ellington, John Hammond, and the ‘Lost Cause,’” *The Fourth Annual Duke Ellington Society Conference*, The Institute of Jazz Studies, Rutgers University-Newark, November 2002.
- “Tangled Up in the Blues: Jazz, Race, and Avant-Garde Modernism,” Drew University, April 2001.
- “Crooners, Gangsters, Guidos, and Homeboys: Notes on Black/Italian Masculinity,” Penn State-Harrisburg Downtown Center, March 2001.
- “Hipsters, Bluebloods, Rebels, and Hooligans: The Cultural Politics of the Newport Jazz Festival, 1954-1960,” The College of William and Mary, February 2001.
- “Race and Nation in 4/4 Swing Time: Riffing on the Jazz Mainstream,” JVC Jazz Festival Symposium, *The Meanings of Jazz*, Newport, R.I., August 2000.
- “Canonizing Jazz,” Department of Black Studies, Amherst College, February 1999.
- “Race-ing the Bird: Jazz, Racial Representation, and the Obsessive Pursuit of Charlie Parker,” Changing Cultures of Race Seminar, Carter G. Woodson Institute, University of Virginia, April 1998.
- “Entering the Mainstream: Jazz and Cultural Politics in the 1950s,” W.E.B. Du Bois Institute Colloquium, Harvard University, December 1996.
- “Critiquing Jazz,” W.E.B. Du Bois Institute Colloquium, Harvard University, May 1996.
- “Jazz at Lincoln Center: Culture Wars in Contemporary Jazz,” University of Colorado, School of Music, Colloquium Series, February 1995.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

1. INTERNATIONAL

- “Music Inn and the Birth of Jazz Studies,” *Jazz Futures* conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 2025.
- “Critical Conversations in Transnational Italian Studies” (keynote panel discussant), American Association for Italian Studies conference, Sorrento, Italy, June 2024.
- “The Transnational Turn in Jazz Studies, Italian Studies, and American Studies,” *Jazz Encounters*

- conference, Graz, Austria, April 2024.
- “‘Because Music Has Nothing to Do with Oil’: Tanya Kalmanovitch’s *The Tar Sands Songbook* as an Elixir of Possibility,” American Studies Association Conference, Montreal, Quebec, November 2023.
- “The Jazz Salon: Remembering Music Inn,” *50 Years Jazz Re:Search Graz*, Graz, Austria, June 2022.
- “A Cool Encounter: Stephanie Barber and John Lewis at Music Inn,” *Documenting Jazz*, Edinburgh, Scotland, June 2021.
- “Listening to Italian America as a Sonic Archive,” *Diaspore Italiene – Italy in Movement: Between Immigration and Historical Amnesia*, Genoa Italy, June 2019.
- “Photographing the Jazz Salon: Clemens Kalischer at Music Inn,” *Documenting Jazz*, Dublin, Ireland, January 2019.
- “Everybody Eats: Jazz, Food, and Black/Italian Discourses of Flavor-and-Soul,” *Jazz Utopia*, Birmingham, UK, April 2016.
- “Joe Lovano and the Italian Jazz Diaspora,” *Jazz and National Identities*, Amsterdam, Netherlands, September 2011.
- “The Other Side of the Curtain: U.S. Jazz Discourse, 1950s America, and the Cold War,” *Jazz Behind the Iron Curtain*, Warsaw, Poland, September 2008.
- “Blaxploitation Bird: Charlie Parker, Ross Russell, and the Racialized Masculinity of Jazz Writing,” *Criss Cross: Confluence and Influence in 20th Century African American Music, Visual Art and Literature*, University of Nottingham, UK, June 2004.
- “Swing and Social Statement: Jazz and Politics, Past and Present,” *International Culture and the State Conference*, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, May 2003.
- “Jazz and the Politics of the Popular Front,” *Windows and Mirrors: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on American Popular Culture at Home and Abroad*, Toronto, March 2004.
- “Rebels and Hooligans: The Cultural Politics of the 1960 Newport Jazz Festival,” American Studies Association Conference, Montreal, October 1999.
- “Really the Blues: Authenticating the ‘Folk’ in Jazz Criticism, History, and Polemics, 1938-1945,” Organization of American Historians Conference, Toronto, April 1999.
- “Paris Blues: Albert Murray’s Trans-Atlantic Riff,” *African-American Music and Europe Conference*, Paris, April 1996.
- “Gender and Jazz Discourse: A Reading of Billie Holiday’s ‘Fine and Mellow,’” Canadian American Studies Association Conference, Ottawa, November 1994.
- “The Italo-Africano Crossover in American Popular Culture,” Czechoslovakian English Language Teachers Conference, Hradec Kralove, Czechoslovakia, November 1992.

2. NATIONAL

- “*BlackItalian*: A Film Screening and Discussion,” American Studies Association Conference, San Juan, PR, November 2025.
- “*BlackItalian*: Workshopping a Film-in-Progress,” Italian American Studies Association Conference, Montclair, NJ, November 2025.
- “Queering the World: Annie Lanzillotto’s Art of Incongruity,” Italian American Studies Association Conference, Fayetteville, AR, October 2023.
- “Shades of Migration: Color and Identity in the Italian Diaspora,” (Session chair and commentator), Italian American Studies Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, PA, October 2022.
- “The Jazz Salon: Clemens Kalischer at Music Inn,” Society for Ethnomusicology, October 2021 (virtual).
- “The House We Live In: Italian Americans and Whiteness in the Age of Trump,” Italian American Studies Association Conference, Houston, TX, November 2019.

- “*Are Italians White? How Race is Made in America: A Fifteen Year Retrospective*,” (session organizer, chair, and presenter), Italian American Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL, October 2018.
- “Brevitas: Diasporic Excursions,” Italian American Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL, October 2018.
- “‘To Sound that Black, They Had to be Italian’: The Rascals and the Rock/Soul Racial Narrative,” American Studies Association Conference, Chicago, IL, November 2017.
- “Dagoes, Darkies, and 20th Century Modernity,” Italian American Studies Association Conference, Washington, DC, November 2017.
- “*The Routledge History of Italian Americans: A Roundtable*,” Italian American Studies Association Conference, Washington, DC, November 2017.
- “Seeing in the Dark: Military Vision Here and Elsewhere,” (session chair and commentator), American Studies Association Conference, Denver, CO, November 2016.
- “Everybody Eats: Jazz, Food, and Black/Italian Discourses of Flavor-and-Soul,” Italian American Studies Association Conference, Long Branch, CA, November 2016.
- “Sports on Screen: Visual Economies of Representation in Film, Television, and Digital Media,” (session chair and commentator), American Studies Association Conference, Toronto, October 2015.
- “Reel Fun: Community Filmmaking in the 1960s and 1970s,” (session chair and commentator) American Studies Association Conference, Los Angeles, CA, November 2014.
- “Gangster Shtick, Ethnic Kitsch, and the Italian Americanization of College Basketball,” *MAFIAs: Realities and Representation of Organized Crime*, Calandra Italian American Institute, New York, April 2014.
- “Family Trauma, Retaliatory Gastronomy, and Transnational Italian Americanism,” American Studies Association Conference, Washington D.C. November 2013.
- “Carry Me Back: Romanticized Souths and Musical Black Italianità,” *Due South: Roots, Songlines, Musical Geographies*, Experience Music Project Conference at Tulane University, New Orleans, LA, April 2013.
- “Jazz and the Voices of Empire and Resistance,” American Studies Association Conference, San Juan, Puerto Rico, November 2012 (session chair and commentator).
- “Sideline Shtick: The Italian American Basketball Coach and Consumable Images of Racial and Ethnic Masculinity,” Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, Boston, MA, March 2012.
- “All in the Family: Gangster Shtick, Sentimental Ethnicity, and the Italian American Basketball Coach,” American Studies Association Conference, San Antonio, TX, November 2010.
- “Contemporary Displacements of Humanitarianisms,” American Studies Association Conference, Washington D.C., November 2009 (session chair).
- “‘Killer Vees’ Whistling Dixie: Jim Valvano, Dick Vitale, and ACC Basketball as Ethnic Shtick,” American Italian Historical Association Conference, Baton Rouge, October 2009.
- “The Grain of the Voice, The Cry of the Fazool: Annie Lanzillotto, Bard of the Bronx, Sings Arthur Avenue,” American Italian Historical Association Conference, New Haven, CT, November 2008.
- “New Directions in Italian American Popular Cultural Studies,” American Studies Association Conference, Albuquerque, October 2008.
- “Teaching the Unknown Classics in Italian and Italian American Studies: The Case of Joe Lovano,” New Jersey Italian and Italian American Heritage Commission Symposium, Rutgers University, March 2008.
- “Troppo Mario: Italian Cooking, American Celebrity,” American Italian Historical Association Conference, Denver, November 2007.

- “The First Time: A Memoir of Race and Adoption,” American Italian Historical Association, Denver November 2007.
- “Kym Ragusa Beats Her Drums,” American Italian Historical Association Conference, Orlando, October 2006.
- “Jazz, Ethnicity, and Global Culture,” New Directions in U.S. Ethnic Studies Conference, Burlington, Vermont, June 2006.
- “Tenor Madness: Joe Lovano’s *Viva Caruso* and the Italian Jazz Diaspora,” American Italian Historical Association Conference, Los Angeles, November 2005.
- “Coolin’ Out at the Jazz Salon: The Lenox School of Jazz and the 1950s ‘Mainstream,’” Society of American Music Conference, Eugene, Oregon, February 2005.
- “Taking a Pass on Passing: The White Jazz Critic as Anti-White Negro,” American Studies Association Conference, Atlanta, November 2004.
- “What is Jazz? The Case of Promoter/Impresario George Wein,” Experience Music Project Pop Conference, *Skip a Beat: Challenging Popular Music Orthodoxy*, Seattle, April 2003.
- “Baraka’s Bohemian Blues,” American Studies Association Conference, Houston, November 2002.
- “Vocalizing Race: The Politics of Music in the 20th Century,” (session commentator), Organization of American Historians Conference, Washington D.C., April 2002.
- “Remembering Popular Music in the 20th Century,” (session organizer and chair), Mid-Atlantic American Studies Conference, Johnstown, PA, April 2001.
- “Intimate Enemies: Spike Lee and His Goombahs,” American Studies Association Conference, Detroit, October 2000.
- “Mammissimo: Dolly and Frankie Sinatra and the Italian American Mother/Son Thing” (paper) and “Frank Sinatra and Italian American Culture” (discussant), The Frank Sinatra Conference, Hofstra University, November 1998.
- “Race and Nation in 4/4 Swing Time: Albert Murray’s Riff on the Jazz Mainstream,” American Studies Association Conference, Seattle, October 1998.
- “Monk, Modern Jazz, and Postwar American Culture,” panel discussant, “*Brilliant Corners*”: *A Symposium Celebrating Thelonious Monk*, University of North Carolina/Chapel Hill, February 1998.
- “Global Circuits of Popular Music,” (session commentator), American Studies Association Conference, Washington, D.C., October 1997.
- “Flaming Dis-Chord: Civility, Censorship, and Pop Music,” *Civility and Censorship: Critical Conversations in a Civil Society*, Center for the Humanities and Arts, University of Colorado, April 1997.
- “Crooners and Gangsters: Love and Violence in Italian/Black Crossover,” American Studies Association Conference, Kansas City, November 1996.
- “Race, Gender, and Nationality in American Popular Music, 1890-1945,” (session commentator), Organization of American Historians Conference, Chicago, March 1996.
- “Revisiting Civil Religion” (session commentator), *The Conference on Media, Religion, and Culture*, University of Colorado, January 1996.
- “Salsa Meets Jazz: Popular Memory, Cultural Politics, and the Afro-Latin New York Sound,” American Studies Association Conference, Pittsburgh, November 1995.
- “The Times They Are A’ Changin’: LIFE and the Counterculture,” *Looking at LIFE: Rethinking America’s Favorite Magazine, 1936-1972*, University of Colorado, September, 1996.
- “‘A Weapon of Integration’: Frank Marshall Davis and the Politics of Jazz,” Midwestern Modern Language Association Conference, Chicago, November 1994.
- “Critical ‘Passing’: Black Music and Cultural Critique,” American Studies Association Conference, Boston, November 1993.

“Rhythmic Integration: The Politics of Race, Culture and Criticism in the Swing Era,” New England American Studies Association Conference, April 1993.

“Jazz and Multiculturalism: The Implications of Wyntonism,” New England American Studies Association Conference, Boston, April 1992.

INTERVIEW SUBJECT (Selected)

<https://www.jerryjazzmusician.com/interview-with-john-gennari-author-of-the-jazz-barn-music-inn-the-berkshires-and-the-place-of-jazz-in-american-life/> February 2026.

Gabriel Seroussi, “Flavor and Soul: Jazz, Whiteness, and Italian Identity,” special issue of *Oltreoceano*, “Overseas Dreams: Cultural Crossroads Between Italy and Black America,” November 2025.

“Hear the Buzz,” Jazz Journalists Association Podcast, May 2022.

Ron Stodghill, “Letter from Rome: One Writer’s Transformational Trip to Rome Sparks a Reflection on the Connections between Italians and African Americans,” *Airbnb Magazine*, October/November 2019: 94-99.

Black Agenda Report Book Forum, <https://www.blackagendareport.com/bar-book-forum-jason-borges-tropical-riffs-and-john-gennaris-flavor-and-soul>, December 2018.

We the Italians, http://wetheitalians.com/single_post/italian-americans-and-african-americans-clash-cultures, July 2018.

New Books Network, <http://newbooksnetwork.com/john-gennari-flavor-and-soul-italian-america-and-its-african-american-edge-u-chicago-press-2017/>, April 2018

“Race and Jazz Criticism,” *All About Jazz* (www.allaboutjazz.com), October 3, 2011 (Part 1), February 6, 2012 (Part 2).

COLLOQUIA

“Transcending Borders, Bridging Gaps: Italian Americana, Diasporic Studies, and The University Curriculum.” John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, CUNY. January 8-11, 2018, New York

“Transcending Borders, Bridging Gaps: Italian Americana, Diasporic Studies, and The University Curriculum.” John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, CUNY. January 30-31, 2025, New York.

EDITORIAL POSITIONS

Guest editor, “Listening to Italian America,” special issue of *Italian American Review*, 9/1 (Winter 2019).

EDITORIAL BOARDS

American Studies (2013-)

Italian American Review (2009-)

Jazz Research Journal (2006-)

Transformations: The Journal of Inclusive Scholarship and Pedagogy (2007- 2014)

EXHIBITIONS, PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Discussant, *The Anatomy of Vince Guaraldi*, screening and discussion of documentary film

with its director, Calandra Italian American Institute, New York, October 2011.
Consultant, film documentary on life and career of jazz musician Tony Scott (Tecnicocinico Cinema, Italy, 2010)
Radio program panelist, Rhode Island Public Radio's "Action Speaks," program on Norman Mailer's "The White Negro," October 2008.
Panelist, "The Influence of Ornette Coleman," Burlington Discover Jazz Festival, June 2008.
Consultant to Missouri Historical Society, exhibit on life and career of Miles Davis (exhibit opening, May 2001).
Consultant to National Music Foundation (Lenox, MA) for commemorative program on the Jazz Roundtables and the School of Jazz at Music inn (1950-1961), summer 1998.
Co-curator and project coordinator, "The Holsinger Studio Photograph Traveling Exhibit: History, Memory, Race, and Place in America, 1900-1925," Carter G. Woodson Institute, University of Virginia, 1998-99.
Text writer and consultant, "'Somebody's Done Me Wrong': African American Sheet Music, 1890-1930," Carter G. Woodson Institute, University of Virginia, April 1998.
Researcher, "Seeing Jazz," Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, 1994.

UVM CONFERENCE AND SYMPOSIUM ACTIVITY

Co-chair and organizer, *JazzArts 2024-25 Symposium*, University of Vermont, February 2025.
Host and facilitator, "UVM's Faculty Fellows for Diversity: Teaching Diversity Classes," *Blackboard Jungle 12 – Engaging Inclusivity, Practicing Civility, and Shaping Learning Communities for Today and Beyond*, University of Vermont, March 2019.
Organizing committee, *Annual Race, Gender, and Sexuality Student Conference*, 2015-2019
Panel organizer, chair, and commentator, "Ways of Talking, Ways of Being: Language and Identity in the Classroom and Beyond," *Blackboard Jungle 7- Expanding Diversity: Speaking Up, Reaching Out, and Stepping Beyond*, University of Vermont, March 2014
Panel chair and commentator, "Research and Scholarship for Social Change," *Blackboard Jungle 5 – Teaching to Cultural Diversity: A Realm of Possibilities*, University of Vermont, March 2012.
Workshop panelist, "The U.S. The They: Crossing Cultural Border," *Blackboard Jungle 4 – Engaging the Silences: Transformative Conversations in Classrooms and Communities*, University of Vermont, March 2011.
Workshop discussant, "Social Justice in the Classroom," *Blackboard Jungle 3*, University of Vermont, March 27, 2010.
Workshop panelist, "Eureka Moments in Teaching Diversity," *Blackboard Jungle*, March 2008.
Organizer and director, *New Directions in U.S. Ethnic Studies*, sponsored by the ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies Program, University of Vermont, June 6-8, 2006.
Workshop instructor, "Jazz, Literature, and the Cultural Imagination," Vermont Alliance for the Social Sciences/UVM Center for World Education summer institute for Vermont high school teachers, June 2005.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Executive Council, Italian American Studies Association, 2017-2022; IASA Book Awards Committee, 2020-2022.
Media Projects Panel, National Endowment for the Humanities, March 2017, October 2020.
National Humanities Center, fellowship application reviewer, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024.
Dissertation Committee Member, Francesca Bellei, Harvard University, Department of Comparative Literature, "Imagined Motherhood: The Role of Italy and Ancient Greece in the Construction of

Anglo-American Hegemony” (defended, spring 2022).
 Dissertation Committee Member, Loes Rusch, University of Amsterdam, Department of Music, “Jazz Practice in the Netherlands, 1960-1980” (defended, May 2016)
 Dissertation Committee Member, Christopher Robinson, University of Kansas, Department of American Studies, “Firing the Canon: Multiple Insularities in Jazz Criticism,” (defended, spring 2014, winner of KU’s Argersinger Prize for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation).
 Member, Lara Romero Prize Committee (awarded to the best first book), American Studies Association, 2010.
 Chair, Ralph Henry Gabriel Dissertation Prize Committee (awarded to the best dissertation in American Studies), American Studies Association, 2008.
 Manuscript reviews for American Quarterly, American Studies, California Italian Studies, Jazz Perspectives, Journal of Popular Music Studies, Modern Intellectual History, University of Chicago Press, Oxford University Press, University of Illinois Press, University of Massachusetts Press, Smithsonian Institution Press, SUNY Press, University of California Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, Wesleyan University Press.
 Workshop instructor, “Blues to You,” Oscar Micheaux Film and Book Festival, Gregory, South Dakota, August 2005.
 Editor and writer, The Encyclopedia Africana, W.E.B. Du Bois Institute/Microsoft CD-ROM project (content editor and writer of entries on African-American athletes).
 Writer, Footprints (contributor of essays on sports and music figures to magazine for African American young adults).
 Lecturer on “Themes in American Culture,” English Language Programs, University of Pennsylvania (audiences have included scholars and teachers from Western and Eastern Europe, Fulbright Scholars from over thirty countries, business professionals from over ten countries).

READINGS AND PERFORMANCES

“Tell Me a Story: A City Lore Salon with Annie Lanzillotto,” March 2021.
 “*Voices in Italian Americana: A Night of Poetry*,” John D. Calandra Italian American Institute, New York, April 2019.
 “Annie Lanzillotto’s Fritattagoraphobia with John Gennari,” book launch event for Gastropolis: Food and New York City, ed. Annie Hauck-Lawson and Jonathan Deutsch, New York, December 2008 (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Css07MuQUhY>)
 “Jazz-Lit.Com,” Burlington Discover Jazz Festival, June 2004 (spoken word collaboration with jazz musicians).
 “BebopAraka,” Burlington Discover Jazz Festival, June 2005.
 “Brush Strokes: Painting, Poetry, and Jazz,” Burlington Discover Jazz Festival, June 2006.

TEACHING INTERESTS

U.S. Cultural History
 Race and Ethnicity in U.S. Literary and Cultural Studies
 The Arts and Expressive Culture
 Post-World War II America
 Jazz and Popular Music
 Italian American Studies
 Food Studies
 Sound Studies

UVM SERVICE

English Department:

- 2024 Graduate Committee
- 2023 Chair, Ad Hoc Committee to consider acquiring *Green Mountains Review*
- 2022 Search Committee for First-Year Writing Instructors position
- 2013-2014, 2016-2018, 2019-2020 Chair, Personnel Committee
- 2013-2014, 2016-2017, 2019-2020 Executive Committee
- 2015-2016 Curriculum Committee
- 2012-2013 Search Committee for Rhetoric/Composition position
- 2010-2013 Personnel Committee
- 2009-2010 Resources Committee
- 2008 UVM Film Festival judge
- 2005-2006 Member of Albee Awards Committee for student writing
- 2005-2006 Search committee for Early American literature and culture position
- 2004-2005 Search committee for ALANA position
- 2002-2003 Executive Committee
- 2001-2002 Search committee for 20th Century American literature position

College of Arts and Sciences:

- 2024 Reappointment review committee for Chair of Philosophy
- 2022-23 CAS Dean's Ad Hoc Committee on Metrics, fall 2023.
- 2022- CRES Advisory Committee
- 2022 Search committee for CAS Associate Dean of DEI
- 2020-2021 Shared Services Planning and Implementation Committee
- 2019-2020 Dean's Ad Hoc Curriculum Innovation Committee
- 2018-2019 Chair, Faculty Standards Committee
- 2016-2019 Faculty Standards Committee
- 2016 Interim Director, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Program
- 2015-2019 Organizing and programming committee, *Race, Gender, and Sexuality Student Conference*
- 2012-2014 Dean's Ad Hoc Committee on ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies
- 2012 Search committee for one-year position in ALANA/Sociology
- 2011-2012 ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies Program curriculum committee
- 2010-2012 Organizing and programming committee, *Race, Gender, and Sexuality Student Conference*
- 2006-2007 Coordinator, CAS Faculty Diversity Initiative
- 2003-2006 Admissions Committee
- 2004-2009 Director, ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies Program
- 2003-2004 Chair of Search Committee for two ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies positions
- 2003-2004 Interim Director, ALANA U.S. Ethnic Studies Program
- 2005-2006 Director, Living/Learning Center Program, "Whiteness of a Different Color: Italian Americans and Race"
- 2002-2004 Co-director (with Emily Bernard) of Living/Learning Center Program, "Race and Ethnicity in American Culture"

University:

- 2019-2022 Associate Director, (proposed) Institute of Social Justice
- 2018-2019 General Education Diversity Assessment Committee Pilot Study
- 2017-2019 Chair, Food Systems Faculty Membership Committee

2015-16 Food Systems Faculty Membership Committee
2015 Co-chair, United Academics Civil Rights Committee
2013 Blackboard Jungle Symposium planning committee
2012- Food Systems Affiliated Faculty
2009-2011 Faculty adviser, Multiracial Student Group
2008 Delivered "Closing Reflection" at University Commencement
2010 Search Committee for Women's Basketball Coach
2007-2010 Blackboard Jungle Symposium planning committee
2009-2011 Chair, Athletic Advisory Board
2007-2008 Athletic Department Diversity Subcommittee
2007-2011 Athletic Advisory Board
2005-2008 Faculty adviser, WRUV
2003-2006 United Academics (UA) Delegate
2004-2006 President's Commission on Diversity and Inclusion
2006 Honors College Diversity Task Force
2003-2008 Honors College Council
2004-2005 Search Committee for Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences
2003-2004 Search Committee for Executive Director of Affirmative Action

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Studies Association
Italian American Studies Association
Jazz Study Group (Columbia University)
American Association for Italian Studies
Society for Ethnomusicology